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WAR ON EAST FRONT FURIOUSLY SPREADS; SOVIET LOSSES HUGE

Arms, Reinforcements Being Rushed by Both Forces Locked In Terrific Combat

Domei

BERLIN, January 16.—The great battles raging on six theaters of war between the northwestern slopes of the wooded Carpathians and East Prussia further grew in fury and extent. More and more masses of tanks, guns and manpower are sent into the battle by both sides.

The gigantic struggle southwest of the Lysa Gora, gravity center of the Soviet general offensive, was split up into several battles and is already culminating in a crisis for the mastering of which the German command has already taken all necessary measures. Though the German losses are considerable, the Soviet losses in men and material are at least eight times those of the Germans.

In the Narev bridgeheads as well as in East Prussia the Soviets failed to achieve any operative success. Yesterday alone 379 Soviet tanks were destroyed according to incomplete reports and this is tantamount to two full tank corps. The Soviet tank losses in Hungary are not included in this figure.

A most successful German defensive was again attained in the East Prussian border district between Schlossberg (Pilkallen) and Ebenrode (Stallupoenen) where the Soviets incessantly supported by artillery and battleplanes tried to break through the deeply echeloned German defense system for five hours in the afternoon but the enemy attacks were smashed completely. Single fighting groups which in the snowstorm filtered into the German line were wiped out in hand-to-hand fighting.

Aimed at Koenigsberg

The ultimate objective of these two Soviet assaults are unmistakably the attack from the eastern frontier of East Prussia is aimed at Koenigsberg and is furthermore intended to cut off the German formations stationed farther north on the Memel River. The thrust from the Narev bridgeheads at Rozan and Serock is aimed at Danzig. The Soviet high command is thus aiming at doubly outflanking East Prussia.

In the town of Schlossberg, hotly fought for days, East-Prussian soldiers are defending their homes with utmost bitterness. North of the Rominten Heath, Soviet attacks in battalion strength collapsed before reaching the German lines. On the Narev bridgeheads where the battle is increasing in intensity the German front has withstood the Soviet pressure while west of Rozan the Soviets had to retreat to their initial positions. A major unit reaching the eastern suburbs of Machelmr was foiled in grim fighting. To the south German armored shocktroops tore up the Soviet flank and cut off sizeable parts of the Soviet assault wedge. Northwest of Serock, focal point of the Soviet attack, an enemy breach was sealed off. Soviet thrusts in the Vistula-Bug triangle were unsuccessful.

South of Warsaw the Red Army pushing beyond the Vistula bridgehead east of Varka to the southwest, was held in the depth of the German main fighting field and violent fighting for the small town of Bialobregi (north-northwest of Radom) is in progress. Further to the south a Soviet fighting group succeeded in reaching the eastern outskirts of Radom. The majority of the enemy tanks was annihilated here by German storm guns and anti-tank shock units while simultaneously a strong German flank attack from the north separated the Soviet group which had broken through from their supply base.

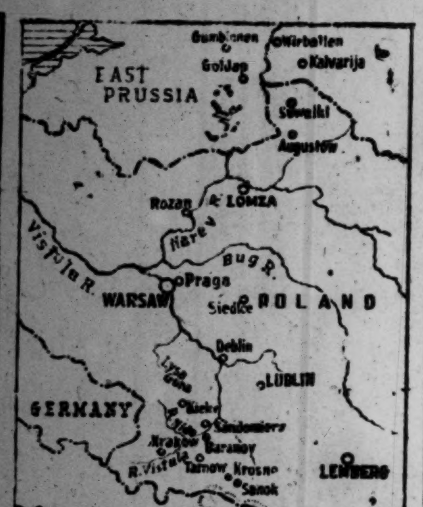
In the big penetration area south of the Lysa Gora where numerous German centers of resistance hindered the Soviet rifle formations from pushing to the west the Soviets threw their entire tank reserves into the battle and filtered into the German lines through several front gaps. The Soviets, however, nowhere entered the northern flank of the penetration area and all their attacks collapsed south of Opatov as well as on the southern borders of the Lysa Gora. A German tank unit reentered the town of Kielce from a northwestern direction and cleared the most part of the streets of the enemy. South of Kielce a murderous tank battle went on throughout the day, the Soviet "steel monsters" were given up by the dozens and all breakthroughs were prevented while single Soviet tanks penetrating into the depth of the German defensive zone were pursued by mechanized anti-tank guns and storm artillery and were knocked out.

The southern Soviet assault wing pushing in the direction of Kracow was stopped between the Nida and Nidziga Rivers in fluctuating fighting costly for both sides. Strong German units opened flank attacks from the south and decimated the advanced mechanized enemy troops on the Nida junction as well as south of Kazimierza. A new Soviet large scale attack east of Jaslo yielded no result for the Soviet troops apart from two local dents.

Pierce Reich Line

Along a stretch of roughly 70 kilometers, the Soviets are attacking from the Baranov bridgehead with six armies and three independent tank corps. Marshal Konjev, commanding the Soviet armies fighting in this sector, sacrificed at least six divisions before his troops at a few points succeeded in entering deeper into the main German fighting zone. The objective of the southern Soviet attacking flank is obviously Kracow which Marshal Konjev is trying to reach with a tank army, two formations.

In Hungary German panzer and infantry forces threw the Soviets further back to the east and took more than 1,000 prisoners and Bator Keszi was taken. Hundreds of vehicles of all kinds and 69 guns fell into German hands. Only local fighting took place between Stuhweissenburg and the Danube knee. The garrison of Budapest held its own against all Soviet thrusts and firmly defended the center of the city.



CHURCHILL IS QUIZZED SHARPLY BY LABOR M.P.'S

Reaffirms 'Unconditional Surrender' Demand Even If War May Be Prolonged

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—Put under fire by a withering barrage of questions and demands from the Labor members at the reopening of Parliament after the Christmas recess, Prime Minister Churchill today asserted that the war would be prolonged until "unconditional surrender" of the enemy and declared he and President Roosevelt were in harmony in their views of the Atlantic Charter "as of aims—not a law," but he side-stepped all questions regarding Greece and asked the members to await the Government's full-dress statement, according to a London dispatch.

Main points contained in the replies by the Prime Minister were: (1) unconditional surrender of the enemy, (2) harmony with President Roosevelt in their views regarding the Atlantic Charter, (3) British casualties in Greece between December 3 and January 6 totalled 2,101, (4) British casualties since the war's beginning totalled more than a million.

Churchill Pressed

Verbatim exchanges of questions and replies in the Commons were as follows:

Rhys Davis (Laborite): Does the Prime Minister not think that these threats of unconditional surrender against the Axis Powers have a tendency to stiffen the people of Germany behind their leaders and prolong the war? Will you be good enough to reconsider your policy to see if you could not employ your power to bring this misery in Europe to an end?

Churchill: No sir, we do not take that view at all. I think the House would be overwhelmingly against our attempts to make peace by negotiations. The war will be continued until unconditional surrender has been achieved.

Riley (Laborite): Do you not appreciate that the slogan "unconditional surrender" has a great political value for the German Party?

Churchill: I do not think that is so.

Davis: In view of the fact that President Roosevelt's recent statement had cast doubt on the genuiness of the Atlantic Charter, will you make a statement on the subject?

Churchill: Far from doubt having been cast on the genuineness of the Atlantic Charter, I know that Roosevelt is reported to have declared on December 22 last that its objectives are just as valid today as they were in 1941. However, all objectives of the Charter are not likely to be achieved immediately.

Davis: Is it not the case that the Atlantic Charter did not apply to one-half of Europe?

Churchill: I made immediately on returning from the Charter conference a statement about the application of the Charter to the British Empire and to India. In effect the purposes and principles of the Charter were already being achieved by the process of extending self-government.

Davis: What parts of the Charter are valid immediately?

Churchill: I do not think there is any need to go into that. It has been very well described by the President as a standard of aims and indication of the direction in which we are proceeding. It is no law.

Million British Casualties

Churchill told the Commons that British casualties in Greece between December 3 and January 6 were 2,101 of which 237 were fatal. The Prime Minister also revealed that the British empire casualties of the present war between September, 1939 to last November 30 totaled 1,043,554. He said the United Kingdom suffered the heaviest casualties 635,107 and listed the Dominion casualties as: Canada, 78,985; Australia, 84,861; India, 152,597; New Zealand, 34,115; South Africa, 28,943, and other colonies, 28,946. Of the total 282,162 were killed, 386,374 wounded, 294,438 prisoners and 80,580 missing.

REICH FORCES WARD OFF ALL PUSH ON HOUFFALIZE

Little Change in Ardennes Area As U.S. Units Unleash Violent Offensives

Domei

BERLIN, January 16.—American pressure against both the southern and northern flanks of the gradually flattening German bulge in the Ardennes area continued also yesterday with the fighting especially characterized by intense American efforts to roll up the northern flank and force a breakthrough to Houffalize, but as one frontline correspondent described it, the situation on the entire Ardennes front has not changed substantially.

American 1st Army infantry troops backed by tanks and artillery yesterday carried out violent attacks southward against the narrowed German northern flank, but Field Marshal Gert von Rundstedt's effective countermeasures north and northeast of Houffalize warded off all the assaults in grim defense fighting. Over 70 enemy tanks and armored cars were destroyed in this fighting. Meanwhile, orderly German disengagement movements continued and new positions were occupied.

Strongest attacks were launched on the St. Vith-Houffalize highway indicating that the Americans are out to capture Houffalize at any cost.

Fighting on the southern flank of the German salient did not reach the same degree of violence, but breakthrough attempts between Bastogne and the forest area northwest of Wiltz were continued by Lieutenant General George Patton's men. During the past 24 hours, Patton's attacks were also extended in an easterly direction up to west of Diekirch. Attacks made against the western bank of the Sauer River, however, were repulsed.

At the rest of the sectors, fighting remained on a small scale. Reinforced American divisions carried out local enterprises at the Saarlautern bridgehead, in the area south of Bitsch and in the Alsatian Maginot Line.

The German penetration area on the northern edge of the Haguenau forest at the moment is the target of strongest American assaults with heavy fighting taking place at Rittershofen. In violent attacks against the Maginot Line, the Americans achieved a small dent near Rittershofen south of the Hatten-Rittershoften road. After extensive tank battles some American groups infiltered into the town of Hatten where bitter street-fighting is still going on.

424 B-29's Blasted by Nippon Air Defense Since Enemy Started His Raids Last June

Attesting to the enemy's frantic attempts to attack the Japanese mainland in spite of enormous sacrifices, an aggregate total of 1,250 B-29's based in the Marianas and China came attacking Japan Proper during the last seven months, starting from the first raid on Kyushu on June 16 of last year. The fact that the minimum number of 424 enemy aircraft has been either downed or damaged proves the intensity and severity of Japan's anti-air raid activities.

The Luzon operations have gained in intensity and speed day after day. The enemy is apparently attempting to cut Japan's commissary line between the mainland and the Southern Regions and secure a foothold on Luzon Island to use it as an intermediate base connecting the Pacific area and the China Continent while conducting bombing attacks on the Japanese mainland with the Mariana-based B-29's. Should the enemy ambitions be realized, he will effect a juncture between the Marianas, Chengtu and the Philippines.

From the time of the enemy's bombing of Kyushu on June 16, last year, the B-29's based in Chengtu have carried out raids on Japan Proper 10 times, while those based in the Marianas came attacking Tokyo and other districts in the Kinki and central districts 11 times. Furthermore, between intervals, the enemy reconnaissance flights continued day and night.

The enemy is apparently scheming to attack Japan from the Pacific and the China Continent simultaneously. The U.S. 20th Air Command based at Chengtu designs to attack Chosen and Manchoukuo on one hand and Central China, Taiwan and further the Southern Regions on the other. Meanwhile, the U.S. 21st Bomber Command on Saipan under the command of Brigadier-General Hayward Hansell has been frantic in attacking Japan Proper directly from the Pacific area. Taking everything into consideration, it is not difficult to speculate on the enemy plan which envisages joint operations from the Pacific and the China Continent as was averred by Major General Albert C. Wedeyemer, Commander of the U.S. Forces in China.

The B-29's are said to have been particularly built with a view to bombing Japan, however they have suffered enormous losses before the onslaught of Japanese Air Units. Out of the aggregate total of 1,250 enemy attackers which raided Japan Proper on 21 occasions, 178 were downed or 14 per cent of the invading machines, and heavily damaged 246 or 19 per cent. In view of the fact that only 10 per cent of British planes were downed in the raids on German cities, the results scored by Japanese Anti-Air Raid Units are most significant. Of the 178 enemy planes downed, 17 were destroyed by ramming attacks carried out by the Tenshin Anti-Air Raid Unit.

The loss of one B-29 cost the enemy $650,000 and 70,000 working hours. Supposing that each B-29 is manned by a crew of 12, the enemy suffered 2,136 personnel losses in his attacks against the Japanese mainland while the aircraft losses cost the enemy $115,700,000. Furthermore, in Manchoukuo 31 B-29's were downed and 181 enemy aircraft parked on the ground at the Marianas, Calcutta and Chengtu were blasted in the same period. Supposing that half of the damaged planes met their end on their way home or needed repair, then, the minimum number of 540 machines has been lost to the enemy air force for the last seven months.

Julius Krug, Chairman of the U.S. War Production Board, for the first time, revealed the production capacity of B-29's to newspapermen on January 12. According to his statement America is able to produce 135 B-29's monthly, and if so, the American loss of some 450 B-29's during the last seven months equals more than four months' production. In view of the stupendous attrition, the enemy must reconsider his program for the production of B-29's.

The war results scored by the Japanese during the past seven months in Tokyo, and central and western districts follow:

The results of Japanese counterattacks against enemy B-29's from the Marianas raiding Tokyo area and central Japan are as follows:

November 24—daytime, around Tokyo, about 70 planes of which five shot down (one rammed) and nine damaged, or a total of 14.

November 27—night, Kwanto, Tokai and southern part of Kinki districts, about 40 planes.

November 30—two night raids, Tokyo and Sunen areas, about 10 planes.

December 3—daytime, around Tokyo, about 70 planes of which 22 shot down (three rammed) and 37 damaged, or a total of 59.

December 13—daytime, Tokyo, Shikoku, Aichi and Shizuoka, about 80 planes of which two shot down and 10 damaged, or a total of 12.

December 18—daytime, Nagoya and Kinki, about 70 planes of which 17 shot down and more than 20 damaged, or a total of more than 37.

December 22—daytime, Nagoya, Kinki, Shikoku and Maizuru, about 100 planes of which 20 shot down and more than 20 damaged, or a total more than 40.

December 27—daytime, Tokyo and Shizuoka, about 50 planes of which 14 shot down (two rammed) and 27 damaged, or a total of 41.

January 3—daytime, Nagoya, Osaka and Hamamatsu, about 90 planes of which 17 shot down (three rammed) and 25 damaged, or a total 42.

January 9—daytime, Kanto, Tokai and Kinki districts, about 60 planes of which 11 shot down (four rammed) and 18 damaged, or a total 29.

January 14—daytime, Nagoya, about 60 planes of which nine shot down and 34 damaged, or a total of 43.

The total of raiding B-29's from the Marianas numbered 710 of which 117 shot down and 200 damaged, or a total of 317.

The results obtained in western Japan on B-29's from the Chengtu base are as follows:

June 16—night, northern Kyushu, about 20 planes of which seven shot down and three damaged, or a total of 10.

July 8—night, western and northern Kyushu, about a dozen planes.

August 11—night, southern Chosen, Kyushu and Sanin about 20 planes.

August 20—evening, Kyushu and Chugoku, about 80 planes of which 23 shot down (three rammed).

October 25—daytime, Kyushu and Saishu Island, about 100 planes of which five shot down and 19 damaged, or a total of 24.

November 11—daytime, Kyushu and Saishu Island, about 80 planes.

November 21—daytime, western Kyushu, 70 to 80 planes of which 26 shot down (one rammed) and 24 damaged, or a total of 50.

December 19—daytime, western Kyushu, 30 to 40 planes of which six damaged.

January 6—daytime, western Kyushu, 70 to 80 planes.

The total of raiding B-29's from Chungtu base numbered 540 of which 61 shot down and 46 damaged, or a total of 107.

The number of raids on Japan from Marianas and Chengtu bases were daytime 14, evening one and night six, or a total of 21. The grand total of raiding planes was 1,250 with 178 shot down (17 rammed) and 246 damaged, or a total of 424.

'BIG THREE' PARLEY SET

Scene of Conference Reported to Be Again at Teheran

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—A final decision has been made regarding the place and date of the expected meeting of Prime Minister Churchill, President Roosevelt and Premier Stalin, according to a United Press dispatch from London, and it is generally believed that Teheran, capital of Iran, has again been chosen as the place of the "Big Three" conference.

Edward Stettinius Jr., United States Secretary of State, was originally expected to accompany President Roosevelt but in view of his expected attendance at the Pan-American Foreign Ministers' Conference to be convoked at Mexico City, the President is reported to have decided to take Harry Hopkins, his right-hand man. Hopkins will leave ahead of the President and is expected to reach London in a couple of days in order to make preliminary arrangements in consulation with Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden.

Churchill will remain in London until immediately before the start of the conference and hurry toward the place of meeting by air.

EGYPTIAN CABINET FORMED

Two Saadist and One Liberal Members Given New Posts

Domei

LISBON, January 15.—Premier Pasha Ahmed Maher of Egypt formed a new Cabinet this afternoon following the resignation of the Government earlier today after the recent general election, a Cairo dispatch said.

Premier Maher, earlier reports said, tendered the resignation of his four party coalition Cabinet to King Faruk I this morning as customary after the general elections. King Faruk thereupon asked Maher to to form a new Government.

The new Government formed as announced this afternoon included: Bey Hismay Mahmoud (Liberal), Minister of Commerce and Industry; Abdel Megid Badr (Saadist), Minister of Public Works; and Abdel Ramegah Elsanhouri (Saadist), Minister of Education.

Soviets Obtain Vessels

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—Thirty freighters, two large ice-breakers, and a number of small boats including tugboats will be delivered by the Finnish Government to the Soviet Union in accordance with the armistice agreement, states a Helsinki dispatch.

SHINKAI AIR UNIT CITED FOR ATTACK ON SAIPAN

Feats of Sergeant Iida in Attacking Enemy in Bhamo Area Recognized

The outstanding exploits of the Shinkai Bomber Plane Unit that carried out attacks on the B-29 base on Saipan Island and the great deeds of Sergeant Kansaku Iida who distinguished himself in the Bhamo operations in Burma, upon whom citations have been granted, have now been brought to the attention of His Majesty the Emperor, the War Ministry announced on Wednesday.

The text of the announcement follows:

"Those who were awarded citations for extraordinary exploits in attacks on the B-29 base on Saipan Island and in the Bhamo operations in Burma, and whose meritorious services have now been brought to the attention of His Majesty the Emperor, follow:

"Shinkai Bomber Plane Unit

"Under the command of Major Marusuke Shinkai, the above, overcoming all obstacles, made several long-distance, transoceanic night surprise attacks on the base of the B-29 bombers on Saipan Island. Achieving great war results, the unit contributed greatly toward the defense of the Imperial Land.

"Sergeant Kansaku Iida

"Participating in the Bhamo operations, the above, as the commander of a squad, fought gallantly and always took the lead on the front. The Sergeant reduced an enemy position on a hill south of Bhamo in a surprise attack and, furthermore, dashed into the enemy trenches and blasted them.

"On another occasion, when enemy light machineguns were harassing the main body of his comrade unit, the Sergeant, who was seriously wounded in the right breast, dashed into the midst of the enemy carrying explosives and caused great havoc, thereby facilitating the penetration of the position by the main Japanese Force.

"Sergeant Iida finally met glorious death when he fell victim to the enemy's trench mortar shells."

SOVIET, U.S. SCRIBES BUSY IN MUD-SLINGING CONTEST

White's Book on Russia Blasted By Pravda's 'Journalistic Revenge Weapon'

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—Touched to the quick by William White's uncomplimentary report on the Soviets, David Zaslavsky, Pravda's journalistic revenge weapon, exploded against this American newspaperman last week, according to the article "Red on White" in the American magazine Time of December 18.

Zaslavsky's blast was touched off by White's forthcoming book written after the author accompanied Eric Johnston, President of the American Chamber of Commerce, on a tour of the Soviet Union last summer. Excerpts, which appeared in the December issue of the Reader's Digest, follow:

"There is one marked difference between the inmates of the Soviet Union and the Kansas State Penintentiary in Lansing where I have often visited an old friend. Food and clothing in both places are about the same, maybe a little better in Lansing. But should my Kansas friend decide his penitentiary is not well run and express a hope that there might be a change of wardens, he would run no danger of being shot if he were overheard by a stool-pigeon."

By way of revenge, Zaslavsky wrote of White: "He is an obscure American newspaperman of 'doubtful reputation'. His book is nothing but standard stew from the Fascist kitchen with all its aroma of clumsiness, unpardonable ignorance and undisguised malice. It reveals the features of the worst section of the American press."

White, in turn, wrote of Zaslavsky as follows:

"He is, I believe, the same man who attacked Wendell Willkie, late Republican leader, last January as a political gambler playing a peculiar political game just because he discussed the situation of the Baltic States and Poland."

His Majesty Honors 4 Regional Chairmen At Palace Audience

His Majesty the Emperor was pleased to receive in audience the Chairmen of the Regional Administrative Councils of Hokkaido, Tohoku, Kanto and Chugoku-Shikoku districts at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday and to listen to reports on local conditions submitted by them. With Imperial Household Minister Tsuneo Matsudaira, Marquis Koichi Kido, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, Admiral Hisanori Fujita, Grand Chamberlain, General Shigeru Hasunuma, Chief Aide-de-Camp, Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso, Home Minister Shigeo Odachi and other officials close to the Throne in attendance, His Imperial Majesty graciously received in audience, in turn, Chiaki Saka, Tsurukichi Maruyama, General Toshizo Nishio and Mitsumaro Matsumura, Chairmen, respectively, of the Hokkaido, Tohoku, Kanto and Chugoku-Shikoku Regional Administrative Councils. These officials each submitted reports on local conditions of the districts under their jurisdiction for half an hour. Throughout the audience which lasted for two hours, His Imperial Majesty was an interested listener to the reports and was gracious enough to question the four Governors on various problems.

JAPANESE RAIDING UNITS SMASH ENEMY IN BURMA

Chungking Losses in Lashio Area Heavy—Hayabusa Planes Down 3 More Enemy

By a Member of the Military Press Corps

NORTH BURMA FRONT, January 17.—Japanese Units in North Burma are now engaged in fierce battle with the American-trained Chungking army which is advancing southward from Bhamo, evidently in an attempt to connect the Ledo Road with the old Burma Road. The Chungking army is cooperating with the Hunnan Expeditionary Forces, which are assigned to the task of attacking Japanese positions in Yunnan with the area about 79 kilometers west of Lashio as the center of operation.

Japanese raiding units are penetrating the enemy positions, bleeding it white. War results scored by our Forces during the first 11 days of January included about 270 bodies left behind by the enemy and a large amount of arms and ammunition captured.

7 Enemy Planes Destroyed

Domei

ADVANCE BASE IN BURMA, January 17.—Following the morning duel with enemy planes over the central Burmese area on January 15, Japanese Hayabusa Fighter Units encountered a formation of some 60 P-47s over the same area and downed one of the enemy raiders and damaged two others. Two of the Japanese planes failed to return. On the same day, Japanese Ground Units, by furiously opening anti-aircraft fire against an enemy formation of P-47's and Mosquitoes, brought down two of the enemy attackers and damaged two others, bringing the total of enemy planes downed or damaged to seven.

Kremlin Seeks Support

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—The Kremlin has asked France to support the Soviet claim to participate in the International Danger Zones Administration and to obtain the Italian share of the Suez Canal, the Paris Exchange reports. Moscow also wants to buy French-Rumanian oil interests, it was added.

See Syrian President

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—Sir Edward Grigg, British Minister Resident in the Middle East, and new British Minister for Syria and Lebanon Shone have arrived in Damascus and conferred with the President of the Syrian Republic, according to a Damascus report.

Ersatz Tire Output Slow

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 16.—The U.S. Supreme Command has been quoted as saying that the manufacture of Synthetic tires requires 20 per cent more time and labor than ordinary tires, says a report received here. The manufacture of giant synthetic tires for bombers, it was added, requires as much time as is spent to produce 60 ordinary tires.

JAPANESE ENGAGING INVADERS ON LUZON IN DECISIVE BATTLE

Imperial Land, Air Units Continue Smashing Attacks on Slowly Advancing Enemy

The decisive battle on Luzon Island has increased in intensity, and in the Lingayen Bay area, the American invasion forces consisting of three to four divisions have effected a slight forward drive.

On and after January 9, when the American forces landed in the vicinity of San Fabian and Lingayen, Imperial Japanese Land Forces under the command of General Tomoyuki Yamashita continued their smashing attacks on the invaders.

In conjunction with the development of the severe ground fighting, Japanese Air Forces under the command of Lieutenant General Kyoji Tominaga are also carring out ceaseless attacks on the enemy warships and transports in Lingayen Bay as well as in other waters around Luzon Island. To date the Japanese Air Units have sunk or damaged more than 35 enemy warships including two aircraft carriers, two battleships, five cruisers, and others, as was revealed by the Imperial Headquarters.

In the vicinity of Damortis, north of San Fabian, Japanese Land Forces crushed a part of the U.S. forces in a severe counterattacking battle on January 11 and 12. In this fighting, the enemy lost about 1,000 men killed or wounded. In their forced landing on this area, the enemy also lost 14 landing barges.

Meantime, the persistent enemy offensives directed toward the mountainous sectors on both sides of the Pangasinan Plain, namely in the vicinity of the Cabaruan Hills and on the left bank of the Agno River, are being continued. However, the enemy has not been able to make any appreciable gains in face of the bitter Japanese counterattacks.

Enemy Cruiser Damaged

Special to the Nippon Times

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 17.—Japanese Air Units damaged one enemy cruiser in an attack on a convoy cruising in the Sulu Sea on Monday afternoon.

Fight at Damortis

By a Member of the Military Press Corps

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 16.—The Japanese Forces furiously repulsed the enemy that pressed on to a point two kilometers east of Damortis, according to reports received up to the evening of January 15. Thirty tanks were brought into action by the enemy.

About two battalions of enemy forces penetrated to an elevation four kilometers north of Mabilao and fierce fighting is now in progress.

Skirmishes Take Place

Domei

LISBON, January 15.—After reaching the Agno River line, the American Sixth Army on Luzon Island is apparently planning to advance southward. Reports from the front say that the American forces with the help of mechanized and armored forces are trying to penetrate into Tailog. In the San Fabian sector the advance of the American forces is said to be completely stemmed by the resistance of the Japanese Forces.

A UP correspondent reported today that the Japanese Forces bombarded the left wing of the American forces, causing consternation among the American troops. Another report says the Japanese Forces with heavy guns emplaced in the hill camps behind bombarded the left wing of the American forces during the last few nights. West of Lingayen, too, skirmishes took place between small units of the opposing forces today.

The MacArthur Headquarters today issued the following communique: "Japanese Air Forces on January 15 attacked American warships and vessels in the vicinity of Batangas and Manila, as a result of which the American forces sustained some damage."

Americans Watchful

Domei

LISBON, January 16.—The New York Times printed the following article concerning the war situation on Luzon Island: "There is no doubt that the Japanese Forces are concentrating their whole troops on Luzon Island. As far as the situation appears so far, the Japanese Forces are maintaining an unexpectedly careful attitude. It is true

(Continued on Page 2 Col 4)

AMERICAN PRESS URGES POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Fear of Unilateral Settlement Of Post War Issues by Allies Predominant

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 16.—Fear of unilateral settlement by the Allies of postwar problems with the United States watching from the sidelines, in view of America's failure to ratify vital issues after World War I seems to be the crux of the volley of editorial comments caused in reverberation of Senator Arthur Vandenburg's recent statement on foreign policy.

Typical of many expressions of opinion in America, the St. Louis Globe Democrat said, that despite how sincere and hopeful President Roosevelt may have been at his Teheran and Quebec conferences, Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Premier Josef Stalin had no assurance that the United States would back up his plans for a permanent demilitarization of Germany and Japan, remembering what Congress did to the League of Nations. Continuing, it said that the deep-seated attitude of the United States for generations has been one of political isolation, that is, a hands-off policy with problems outside their hemisphere.

Quoting the St. Louis Post Dispatch, it says: "Much of the trouble among the Allies arise from the United States' unwillingness to settle political problems as they came. The result has been a series of unfortunate unilateral actions on the part of our allies with the United States standing on the side lines. Now the President must realize it has been an error not to have created long ago a political body comparable to our combined Chiefs-of-Staff which coordinate and plan military strategy. It is just as necessary for the Allies to coordinate a plan for political strategy."

The New York Herald Tribune says that the brunt of Senator Vandenburg's speech lies in two points: first, that if American aims in this great struggle are to be made good they must be stated now with added candor; and second, that concrete aims can only be figured if the United States is willing to give something for it.

If Senator Vandenburg's statement is a sign of the change in the thinking of American leaders, there have been other signs as well. For example, the very important Senate Committee on Foreign Relations has been reconstituted. This committee initiates legislation on foreign policy, exercising a strong influence by its recommendations.

As a result of the American elections last November, three seats on this important committee were vacated to be filled by Senator Richard Hill, Senator Scott Lucas and Senator Carl Hatch, who according to the New York Times, are men who stand for "cooperation with other nations in assuming responsibility for preventing future wars."

Political events in Europe have given rise to much American comments of a soul-searching kind. Presented by certain unilateral actions in Europe, sections of the American public felt that their conventional idealism was being shaken. First reaction was perhaps to retreat further into that idealism rather than to come to grips with the realistic problem at hand.

But the American newspapers assailed any such retreat. The question was climaxed in President Roosevelt's speech earlier this month in which he admitted the error of the past and his avowal not to repeat it, saying that the United States would "not shrink from the political responsibilities which follow in the wake of battles."

Along the same lines, a proposal was made in the Senate by Senator Tom Connolly, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for the formation of a Council of the United Nations which would deal with controversies that have already risen or that may arise while the International Security Organization is in the process of formation.

The Associated Press commented that such a council backed by the weight of all the United Nations undoubtedly would have inquired into the situation in Greece, for example. It would have been prepared to make representations to both the contending Greek factions and the British which might have led to a solution without bloodshed.

Argentine Foreign Head Quits

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—General Orlando Peluffo, Argentine Foreign Minister, has resigned his position following the diplomatic setback for Argentina when the Pan-American Union rejected Argentina's bid for a hearing on her foreign policy which had caused the majority of the American Republics to deny recognition of the Farrell regime, it was officially announced today from Buenos Aires.

Soviets Aim to Weld Yugoslavia, Bulgaria Into Federated State

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—The Soviet Union's Balkan policy aims not only at close Yugoslav-Bulgarian collaboration but seeks an actual fusion of both States into a federation, according to the journal Tat. This, the paper claimed, is a Soviet countermove against the earlier Anglo-Saxon-Turkish plans for the establishment of a Southern Europe Federation of United Nations that would have enabled the Danube Balkan States to resist the overwhelming influence of the Soviet Union. The new Macedonian State within Yugoslavia was intended as a Soviet bridgehead toward Bulgaria, and it is already assuming this function, Tat added.

300 ENEMY PLANES RAID HONGKONG, CANTON AREAS

20 Hostile Ship-Borne Machines Also Attack Portuguese Facilities at Macao

By J. TSUTSUMI
Of the Military Press Corps

CONTINENTAL BASE, January 16.—Following up their air raids yesterday, a total of 300-odd Grumman deck-planes based on an enemy task force in the South China waters today raided the airfields, ships and other establishments in the Hongkong and Canton areas as well as on Hainan Island.

Hongkong and its vicinity was raided by 100-odd enemy carrier-borne planes while 80 planes attacked the Canton area for an hour from 9 a.m. today. Hainan Island was visited by several score enemy planes.

Again in the afternoon, 100-odd enemy planes raided the Hongkong area for two hours from 3 p.m. In the course of counterattacks launched by Japanese Intercepting Units, more than eight enemy planes are confirmed as having been brought down.

Twenty of the morning raiders invaded the Macao area, a neutral Portuguese territory, and damaged the local harbor facilities by lawless bombing and strafing attacks.

Macao Wantonly Bombed

Domei

CANTON, January 16.—The neutral Portuguese territory of Macao was today subjected to an outrageous attack by American planes. The harbor facilities of Macao and city quarters were relentlessly bombed and strafed, resulting in heavy damage to property, and a large number of casualties among citizens of the port city.

This wanton attack was launched by U.S. Grumman carrier-borne planes. Six Grumman fighters made their first attack at about 9:30 a.m. today and was followed up with another raid by 15 Grummans at about one and a quarter hours later. In each of these two raids, the American planes carried out persistent bombing and strafing attacks against ships at anchor in the harbor, wireless station, aircraft hangars and fortresses. As a result, oil storehouses were set on fire.

28 Downed at Taiwan

Twenty-eight enemy planes were downed (four unconfirmed) and 29 others damaged when Taiwan was bombed on Monday including those previously announced, it was announced by the Taiwan Army at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday.

B-24's, B-29's Raid Yiojima

Special to the Nippon Times

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, January 17.—About 20 enemy planes consisting of B-24's and B-29's made a daylight raid on Yiojima Island on January 14. On the afternoon of the following day, a formation of about 10 B-24's also attacked the same island.

Halmahera Isle Raided

Domei

SOUTHWESTERN PACIFIC BASE January 17.—About 30 medium and small-sized enemy planes raided the northern area of Halmahera Island on the afternoon of January 15. Also yesterday afternoon about 40 enemy planes again raided the island.

Raps British War Cabinet

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—Lord Londonderry, former British Air Minister, at the House of Lords meeting today, accused the British War Cabinet of the lack of interest in postwar aviation, according to a London report. He said that the whole stability of the British Empire depends on the position Britain holds in the air in the future. He also declared that the recent International Civil Aviation Conference held in Chicago has not been a failure as some of the American and British newspapers reported.

RED ARMY AIMS TO FORCE A DECISION ON EAST FRONT

Lack of Military Coordination Between Soviets and Anglo-Americans Noted

Domei

BERLIN, January 16.—The Soviet offensive in the regions between the Baltic Front and the Carpathians, as well as the extensive employment of forces on the enemy side, leave no doubt that Marshal Josef Stalin is not merely out to break into the upper Silesian industrial region, to out-maneuver the strong German position in the Warsaw area, or to make a large-scale pincer attack on East Prussia, but he is seeking his way to end the war.

Each of the aforementioned objectives would justify an all-out effort, but various signs and the mentality of the Soviet command also make it wellnigh impossible that the new Soviet offensive should be aimed only at one or the other of these objectives. The enemy this time certainly will not be satisfied with a partial sucess.

Attacking all abovementioned objectives with about the same violence, the Soviets are making an all-out effort, aiming at the collapse of the entire German defenses and therewith at the decision of the war. The question arises why the Soviets started this offensive just now and why they did not do so in late autumn when the Anglo-Americans launched their offensive, intended to bring about the end of the war.

Several answers are possible. The simplest explanation would have it that the Soviets at that time had not yet finished their preparations and that Eisenhower, obsessed by the ambition to secure the lion's share of the merit of Germany's conquest, did not want to wait for his eastern ally.

It is just as conceivable, however, that Marshal Stalin was guided by the same motives. Perhaps he foresaw the failure of the Anglo-American autumn offensive. Perhaps he hoped that the Germans would exhaust their strategic reserves in warding off the Anglo-American assault in the west, thus weakening their defense in the east to a degree which would ease matters for the Soviets.

At any rate, one thing can definitely be stated: There is decidedly something wrong with the plans for a general offensive of the enemy coalition. They obviously cannot be in tune with one another since the Soviets are seeking a decision of this war precisely at a time when their western allies are not in a position to do the same.

'Of Decisive Importance'

Domei

BERLIN, January 16.—The great Soviet offensive in the east is being treated with utmost seriousness in the German press. The Nachtausgabe describes the offensive as the "defensive battle of decisive importance" and the Angriff carried the bannerline "Struggle in east is becoming a most tremendous mobile battle."

Editorial comments found in the German newspapers generally state that the German countermeasures have already produced a change in the direction of the Soviet assaults as well as the regrouping of the Soviet armies in some instances. The paper Angriff has pointed out that the "Volkssturm" troops are also fighting in East Prussia.

Reconversion Seen Tough

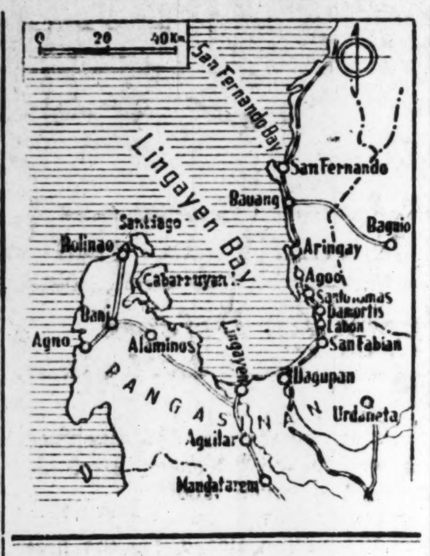
Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 15.—It is pointed out in the December 17 issue of the Financial Times that Britain's civilian reconversion from this war to peace is going to be a much harder proposition than to turn over from one type of war production to another, according to Captain Oliver Lyttelton, British Minister of Wartime Munitions Production. The Minister declared that he could see no difficulty in providing the necessary raw materials, but at the end of the European War more than 50 per cent of Britain's total resources would still be required for the war against Japan. He warned that although there might be releases in the coming year to civilian employment, still the people must not "relax tension."

Benes to Leave London

Domei

ZURICH, January 14.—Dr. Eduard Benes, President of the exile Czechoslovakian regime, expects to depart from London within the next six or eight weeks to return to Czechoslovakia, according to a report in the News Chronicle quoted by a London dispatch. The significance of the reported impending return of Dr. Benes to his own country lies in the fact that relations between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union are exceptionally good and that the realization of a regime within the national boundaries of Czechoslovakia hinges on the further advance of the Red Army.



Japanese Engaging Invaders On Luzon In Decisive Battle

(Continued From Page 1)

that the American forces are continuing their advance without meeting very severe resistance, but one can properly imagine that General Yamashita will make a violent resistance over the line north of Manila. Therefore, there is nothing reassuring from the situation resulting from the march of the American forces. Our future is beset with great difficulties."

Arnold Boasts Again

Domei

LISBON, January 15.—The bombing of Japanese cities by B-29's, carried out during the past few weeks, is nothing but a beginning, for bitter fighting is still awaiting the Americans, stated General Henry Arnold, Commander in Chief of the United States Army Air Corps, on the night of January 13, according to a report emanating from Washington.

Japan has acquired in the Pacific area resources unprecedented in scale, he declared. Her industry and agriculture, which are well advanced, and the scale of which is three times as large as that of Germany, are enough to assure self-sufficiency for herself.

The industry of Japan is now being dispersed, but the Americans are preparing to intensify their raids, Arnold stated.

FRENCH BANK'S ACTIVITIES

Supplied Funds to Resistance Movement During Reich Occupation

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 15.—One of the most important but also the least known of the activities of the Banque de France during the German occupation was the supplying of funds to the Resistance Movement, it has been revealed by the Financial Times. It took a definite shape in the first quarter of 1944 when, in order to meet the expenditures of the Resistance Movement, approximately 300,000,000 francs monthly in Algiers Treasury bonds were dropped by parachute.

According to the journal, the Resistance Movement in the first phase apparently relied on voluntary contributions by patriotic industrialists. After the Anglo-American landings in North Africa, however, the expenditure was met by direct contributions from the Treasury of Algiers. Eventually, it became necessary to drop Treasury bonds from the air because of the difficulty of procuring sufficient quantities of French banknotes in North Africa.

The discounting of these Treasury bonds enjoyed a popular confidence, according to the journal, and originally it was carried out with private individuals. In fact, the bonds were ideal means of disposing of any cash resources which the owner did not wish to hoard. The methods of discounting Algiers Treasury bonds, however, were limited in scope and not secure.

It was then, the journal points out, that the Banque de France intervened by an instruction to branch offices to discount bonds issued by the Treasury of Algiers. From that moment, the Marquis' finances were on a sounder basis while the Banque de France acquired the bonds of the Committee of National Liberation. For obvious reasons, states the journal, the Resistance Movement was naturally anxious to avoid any general distribution of these bonds in the country and the Banque de France, by accepting them for discount, eliminated speculation and made a material contribution to financing the Marquis.

Feeble Raids Attempted

One B-29 bomber coming from the Marianas raided Nagoya at 7 p.m. on Tuesday while another penetrated the skies over Kyoto at 11:30 p.m. the same day. The raiders dropped some bombs. Shortly after 4 a.m. on Wednesday, another Mariana-based B-29 came to raid Shizuoka and Nagano prefectures as well as the southwestern part of the Kanto district. The raider fled southward.

BRITISH CRUELTY BARED IN MERCY SHIP SEIZURE

Many German Wounded Succumb to Ill-Treatment in Outrage by Enemy

Domei

BERLIN, January 15.—The seizure of the German hospital ship, Gradisca, en route to Trieste and the inhumane treatment of the seriously wounded on board, after the ship had been compelled to sail from Alexandria to Algiers was previously reported on October 28. Details on this incident are now reported by Captain Erich Hansen, DNB naval correspondent. His dispatch follows:

In Salonica a number of seriously wounded and sick soldiers were taken on board the Gradisca. Doctors and the sanitary staff were feverishly active, since every moment might decide on the life or death of many. Soon after leaving Salonika the Gradisca was stopped by an enemy submarine, and forced to enter the harbor of the island of Chios, where the Destroyer Kimberley was stationed. The bridge and deck of the German ship was occupied by heavily armed marines while some of the South African soldiers who guarded the German ship were intoxicated. Dispatch of wireless messages was prohibited. Two days later, other destroyers took the Gradisca to Alexandria.

Every part of the ship was thoroughly searched by a commission of British officers. Even the wounded soldiers were all examined by nine officers. However, the search yielded no results. When on the next day a British major general visited the ship, seven seriously wounded Germans had succumbed to their wounds.

On November 4, the British disembarked a large number of wounded and took them away as prisoners in three hospital trains. On November 9, the Gradisca left Alexandria escorted by a corvette. Not before the ship had reached the high seas was the chief physician told that the ship would be taken to Algiers. He once more protested against the deportation of about 1,000 seriously wounded soldiers whose lives were in ever growing danger but received no answer to his protest and his request to send a wireless message to the Swiss Government was refused by the British.

When the German doctor declared that the confiscation of this ship made further transports impossible and that thousands of wounded German soldiers would thus not receive any help, he received a cynical reply. When the Gradisca arrived in the harbor of Algiers on November 18, a British control commission appeared on board to examine the wounded. A large number of Red Cross cars stood in readiness on the quay. The German chief physician once more energetically protested against the disembarkation of the wounded but to no avail.

Meanwhile, a number of German soldiers had died from their wounds. It took two days to take off all the remaining soldiers with the exception of about 100 Germans who were so seriously injured that they could not be transported and were allowed to remain on board. On November 26, the Gradisca was finally allowed to leave for Trieste, but not before numerous wounded soldiers had fallen victims to the British violation of International Law and had died due to the delay in the transport to a hospital.

New U.S. Envoy To Turkey

Domei

LISBON, January 15.— President Roosevelt today nominated Edwin C. Wilson, now director of the Office of Special Political Affairs in the State Department, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Turkey, according to a Washington dispatch. Wilson was lately Roosevelt's representative at Algiers when it was the headquarters for the French Committee of National Liberation. The Turkish assignment was formerly held by Laurence Steinhardt who is now Ambassador to Czechoslovakia.

Facts Worth Noting

Czechoslovak Republic (London)

Dr. Edward Benes—President
Mgr. Jan Shramek—Prime Minister
Jan Masaryk—Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister
Maj. Gen. Sergei Ingr—National Defense Minister
Ladislav Feierbend—Finance Minister
George Slavik—Interior Minister
Frantisek Nemec—Economic Reconstruction and Commerce Minister
Jan Becko—Social Welfare Minister
Jaroslav Stransky—Justice Minister
Jan Lichner—Agriculture and Public Works Minister
Hubert Ripka—State Minister
Gen. Viest—Same
Maximilian Lobkowicz—Ambassador to London
Zdenek Fierlinger—Ambassador to Moscow
Vladimir Hurban—Ambassador to Washington
Stanislav Minovsky—Minister to Chungking

POSTWAR ISSUE DISCUSSED

Chiang Official Advocates Two-Sided Economy for China

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 14.—Postwar economic reconstruction in China for hastening industrialization was discussed in a two-hour speech by Dr. Sun Fo, President of the Chungking Legislative Yuan, in the first of a series of lectures held in the auditorium of the Victory House in the Chiang capital yesterday afternoon under the auspices of the Society of International Economics, says a report received here.

At the meeting, which was attended by over 1,000 persons, including a number of ranking Government officials, Dr. Sun revealed the divergence of American opinion on China's postwar economic reconstruction, saying that one party advocates government control over all matters of postwar industrialization while another party supports free enterprise by private capital.

Explaining that China can neither adopt the British nor American system of free enterprise, nor the socialist economic customs of the Soviet Union, Dr. Sun came to the conlusion that what fits China best is a kind of mixed economic system based on the principle of the people's livelihood in which public and private enterprise go side by side.

LONDON SEEKS SOLUTION OF YUGOSLAV SQUABBLE

Eden Confers With King Peter Regarding Agreement Made Between Tito And Subasic

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 16.—The British Government has entered the conflict between Yugoslav King Peter II and Premier Ivan Subasic which had broken out since the King rejected the Tito-Subasic agreement, according to a Reuter dispatch from London.

The report said that Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, had a meeting with King Peter yesterday and late the same day called Subasic for important discussions.

This meeting led today to a first meeting between the King and Subasic. The King also received two representatives of Marshal Tito, General Hesticz War Minister of the Subasic Cabinet, and Deputy Premier Drago Marusic.

Thus for the first time since the King's "rebellion," official contact has been resumed between the youthful Monarch and his Cabinet, but it has not been revealed whether the meeting found a solution of the political crisis in Yugoslavia and to early execution of the Tito-Subasic agreement.

It was also reported that a meeting has been set today between King Peter, and Marshal Joseph "Tito" Brozovitch's representative in London, General Vladimir Velevit.

Ired at King Peter

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 14.—The refusal of King Peter of Yugoslavia to accept the Tito-Subasic agreement and the manner in which he rejected it has caused great bitterness in Belgrade and whole of Yugoslavia, says Reuter which quotes a Belgrade radio broadcast. On Saturday night, spontaneous demonstrations began in the streets of Belgrade and continued all through the night. On Sunday morning the crowds paraded through the main streets carrying placards bearing the slogans, "We don't want the King, we want Tito."

N.Y. Plans Meatless Day

Domei

LISBON, January 15.—The meat supply for New York is causing considerable concern among competent quarters and Mayor Fiorello La Guardia has now proposed one meatless day in the week, according to a New York dispatch. Other reports said that the lack of meat had forced New York butchers to keep their shops closed all last week. Naming Tuesday as the proposed meatless day, Mayor La Guardia also demanded that slaughtering for Monday's sales be discontinued and asked the population to be satisfied with meat left over from Sunday.

Japanese Leaving Turkey

Domei

ZURICH, January 16.—All the Japanese diplomats now residing in Turkey including the staff members of the Japanese Embassy and the Consulate and other Japanese residents there are scheduled to leave Turkey soon for home via the Soviet Union, according to an Ankara dispatch.

Opening Dardanelles Soon

Domei

LISBON, January 16.—Anti-Axis ships will pass through the Dardanelles within a few days according to an Ankara broadcast today. This verifies the fact that Turkey has opened the Dardanelles for passage of anti-Axis vessels.

AMERICA SET TO EXTEND ASSISTANCE TO GREECE

Roosevelt Assures Plastiras That U.S. Will Collaborate In Reconstruction

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 16.—In a message to Greek Premier General Nicholas Plastiras today, President Roosevelt stated that the United States is ready to collaborate with the other anti-Axis countries in helping to reconstruct that country following the civil war, according to a Washington report.

Roosevelt declared that he has been reassured by Plastiras that the cessation of hostilities would not be followed by reprisals but would be a prelude to decisions reached by democratic process.

John Nixon, BBC correspondent, reporting from Athens said today that the holding of hostages by the ELAS still threatens to prejudice the outcome of the proposed talks between the Greek Government and the ELAS representatives. He declared that the conference will nevertheless take place and the question of hostages will probably be the first item to be covered.

Meanwhile, a London report revealed that the British Government is sending W.J. Hull, a representative of the Labor Ministry as labor attache to the British Embassy in Athens to assist Reginald Leeper, British Ambassador to Greece, on the labor question.

ELAS Forces Withdraw

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, January 15.—Since the "cease fire" order came into force soon after midnight last night, there have been no reports of any clashes in Greece and ELAS forces are withdrawing to the areas laid down in the armistice, an Athens report revealed today.

The areas evacuated by the rebels roughly total between 70 and 100 miles from Athens and the area of 20 miles around Salonika. The rebels are using horse-drawn carts and wagons along the country roads and are embarking on fishing boats to carry out the truce terms.

John Nixon, BBC correspondent, said that some of the more isolated guerrillas have not yet received orders to cease fire but the British are making allowance for this fact.

Another Athens report said that citizens in the capital jubilant over the signing of the truce held demonstrations in celebration of the end of hostilities yesterday.

Difficulties Face Churchill

Domei

BERLIN, January 15.—German political circles believe that Prime Minister Churchill will find things pretty difficult, particularly as regards the situation in Greece, when he makes his statement on the foreign political and military situation in the House of Commons on Thursday.

With considerable interest Berlin has registered the fact that Ernest Bevin, Labor Minister, has voiced strong doubts about the accuracy of information which Churchill has on the situation in Greece.

Bevin particularly criticized Churchill for the manner in which he procured letters from the alleged Greek Trade Union representatives thanking him for his way of handling the Greek problem. According to Bevin, these Trade Union representatives had been ordered to give the gratitude letters to Churchill.

LEDO ROAD TO MYITKYINA IS FINALLY COMPLETED

Truck Convoys Said Prepared To Deliver Huge Amount of Goods to Chungking

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—The Ledo Road running 265 miles from Ledo to Myitkyina in Burma has been completed and an American army convoy of trucks loaded with war supplies is now at Myitkyina en route to China, according to a Chungking report. It said that the truck convoys are ready to deliver from 70 to 60,000 tons of supplies every month to Chungking.

Smuggling Rampant

Domei

LISBON, January 16.—On the eve of the opening of the China-India land route, smuggling with Myitkyina as the trans-shipment center is rampant and increasing, reported the influential and independent daily Ta Kung Pao today from Chungking.

In a story bannered "Gods of wealth swarming Myitkyina" referring to smuggling by multi-millionaires, the paper stated that though the Chungking War Transport Board has announced its determination to ban commercial traffic along the China-India route via the Burma and Ledo roads, Chungking gendarmes at Myitkyina have already seized smugglers making use of Government trucks carrying 10,000 rupees worth of cotton yarn. The Ta Kung Pao said the smugglers and goods were seized when those trucks were crossing the Irrawaddy River.

An earlier Ta Kung Pao report said that the presence of numerous smuggling agents in Calcutta has caused fluctuation of commodity prices in Calcutta as a result of their wholesale purchasing.

Trucks Arrive in Myitkyina

Domei

LISBON, January 15.—After more than two and a half years, the first truck convoy carrying war supplies to Chungking has arrived in Myitkyina in north Burma after a 262-mile trip from Ledo, India, according to a New Delhi dispatch.

Reports reaching here indicate, however, that the prized Ledo Road and the Burma Road have not yet been connected and apparently Japanese Troops on the Burma-China border are still holding in check the Burma Road. The cargo carried to Myitkyina, must therefore remain there for some time.

R.A.F. Planes Over Sweden

Domei

BERLIN, January 14.—A British bomber formation, which late yesterday evening approached the Pomeranian Bay, flew over Sweden in order to evade the German defense forces.

Meanwhile, reporting on this violation of Swedish sovereign territory by British planes, the TT agency reported: "Some parts of Sweden were crossed by a large number of foreign planes on Saturday night. When one British plane crashed near Torskov, the pilot who was injured, was interned. Swedish A.A. guns went into action at various places."

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Hainan Island: Hoihow, Yulin, Kachek, Hokurei. South Sea Islands: Truk, Palau. Philippine Islands: Manila, Davao, Cebu, Baguio, Pacolod, Legaspi, Iloilo, Malai: Shonan. Djawa: Soerabaya, Semarang, Djakarta. Lesser Sunda: Singaradja, Denpassar. Borneo: Banjermasin, Balik-Papan, Pontianak, Tarakang, Samarinda. Celebes: Macassar, Menado. Ceram: Amboina. Timor: Koepang. New Britain Island: Rabaul. New Guinea: Manokwari. Others: Hongkong, [illegible]. Closed: Bombay, London, New York.

GRAND SHRINE BOMBING CONDEMNED AT MEETING

Wrathfulness of Nation Expressed at Rally Held at Hibiya Public Hall

The wrathfulness of the 100,000,000 people of Japan at the enemy who has dropped bombs in the sacred district of Ise and violated the precincts of the Grand Shrines of Ise which have been safe from vandalism for untold ages, was manifested in the speeches which were delivered at the mass meeting held on Wednesday noon at the Hibiya Public Hall under the auspices of the Association for Service to the State through the Press and in the resolution which was adopted by the assemblage following the speeches.

The resolution pledged the 100,000,000 people of the nation not to pause until they have crushed the enemy America in revenge for the outrage committed in the holy province of Ise.

The meeting, which was called the Grand Meeting on the Rising of the 100,000,000 People, was opened with a recital by Marquis Yukitada Sasaki of the Imperial Rescript declaring war on America and Britain.

Yoshihisa Kuzuu, a leader of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, took the chair.

Speeches followed. Dr. Takao Yamada, President of the Jingu Kogakukan University, was the first speaker. Iichiro Tokutomi, journalist and member of the House of Peers, and Haruo Shimada followed.

Then the resolution saying that the entire nation will concentrate on the overthrow of the enemy who violated the precincts of the Grand Shrines of Ise was offered and adopted.

Home Minister Shigeo Odachi, accompanied by Issei Iinuma, Vice-President of the Board of the Shinto Rituals, proceeded to the Grand Shrines of Ise on January 15 and in paying homage at the shrines asked the pardon of the deities for the violation of the sacred precincts of the Outer Shrine.

Later in the day the Home Minister inspected the scene of the enemy's act of vandalism. He then told the press:

"The damage done was very slight. But I have no words in which to describe the feeling of awe with which I regard the fact that the sacred precincts were violated by the enemy.

"The 100,000,000 people, as subjects, have a duty to themselves to see that their children and grandchildren shall bear firmly in their minds the outrageous act of the enemy which fits the fiend and that America, more a brute than anything, completely lost to the sense of morality, is crushed swiftly."

Social and General

Mr. and Mrs. Yui Yokoyama were the host and hostess at a theater party given at the Shimbashi Embujo on Tuesday afternoon for members of the German Embassy staff. The performance featured Onoe Kikugoro in "Kagami Jishi" and Akagaki Genzo "Tokuri no Wakare." Following the performance, the guests were invited to a Japanese dinner. The guests included Lieutenant General Alfred Kretschmer, Lieutenant General Wolfgang von Gronau, Count Ladislaus von Mirbach-Geldern, Colonel Meisinger, Dr. Franz Krapf, Dr. Richard Breuer, Mr. C. Gilbert of the German Embassy staff, Mr. Giesenkirchen of the Essener Nationalzeitung, and Mr. F. H. Handge of the D.N.B.

Mr. Arthur V. Helenius returned to Karuizawa recently after spending a few days in Tokyo last week.

Major Lauri Ilkka Laine is spending a few days at the Fujiya Hotel in Miyanoshita.

Japanese Confer in Nanking

Domei

SHANGHAI, January 16. — The conference of heads of Japanese diplomatic establishments in Nanking and eight other places in Central China started at the Shanghai office of the Japanese Embassy in Nanking yesterday. Reports were made by the conferees about the collection and selling of materials, exploitation of industrial resources in various regions, state of public sentiment, and the economic condition of the Japanese residents.

Rash Behari Bose Ill

The condition of Rash Behari Bose, a staunch fighter for Indian independence and supreme adviser to the Provisional Government of Free India, who has been receiving medical treatment at his residence in Shibuya-ku, has taken a sudden turn for the worse. Strong anxiety is felt for his condition because of his advanced age.

Sublieutenant at Base Pledges to Retaliate Against Enemy Bombing of Ise Grand Shrine

In order to retaliate against the American airmen who bombed the sacred precincts of the Grand Shrines of Ise last Sunday, Sublieutenant T at a certain base is determined to attack the enemy air force with the new crack Japanese fighter plane, "Hien" or (Flying Swallow).

These new fighter planes are already active defending the skies over the Japanese mainland and are counterattacking the B-29's. They are swift like swallows and capable of flying at a high altitude. The Shinomiya plane which made a ramming attack against an enemy B-29 on December 3 and miraculously returned with one of the wings torn was also a Hien fighter.

Speaking of the enemy raid on the Nagoya area last Sunday, Sublieutenant T said:

"On that day, I was just heading for home from a certain place. Looking down on the Nagoya area aboard my plane, I was extremely happy in not finding any damage on the industrial centers. For those who guard the important centers, it is a greater joy to find factories intact after enemy attacks than to bring down enemy machines. It is a matter of great regret, however, that the sacred area has suffered some damage, due to the enemy's impudent bombings. I will never rest till the enemy act of desecration is revenged.

"Some days ago, we were supplied with some new crack fighter planes. It is beyond the imagination of ordinary people how greatly new supplies of planes encourage the officers and men at the base. We are determined to give full play to our new crack planes."

U.S. FIGHTING STRENGTH SEEN ENTERING DECLINE

Time Now Opportune for Japan To Strike Decisive Blow, Declares Minoru Tate

The fighting strength of the United States has now reached its peak, which is the very moment for Japan to deal a final blow to the enemy and cover the vast plains of Philippines with the bodies of American soldiers, declared Minoru Tate, Director of the Population Policy Research Institute of the Welfare Ministry, in reviewing the human resource situation and also the production efficiency of the United States, according to the Yomiuri-Hochi.

The cable report of January 11 that U.S. Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson had demanded the immediate enforcement of all-out national mobilization directly explains the population situation in the United States, Mr. Tate said. The total national mobilization plan was submitted to Congress last May but it was not adopted due to opposition. Now, however, it has become impossible for the United States to continue the war without all-out mobilization of her people, he said, and she hopes thereby to win the war at one stroke.

According to the U.S. Wartime Information Bureau, the population of the United States on July 1, 1943, was 136,000,000. Of this number, those between 15 and 64 years of age and thus capable of work, are estimated at 94,000,000. When the number of sick and those engaged in household duties are subtracted, this leaves 39,000,000 men and 27,000,000 women, or a total of 66,000,000 capable of work. This, was the extreme limit of America's human resources. And included in this number, he said, were 10 per cent negroes, 11 per cent foreign-born of various races, as well as the war dead and wounded totalling 600,000.

Further Drafting Difficult

It is further reported that during last year, 11,000,000 men were called up for Army service and that 53,000,000 were mobilized for work in the industrial fields, which leaves only about 1,000,000 who can be mobilized. Director Keeling of the Selective Mobilization Bureau is said to have declared that in the first half of this month, 900,000 military recruits would be required, but this appears difficult of carrying out according to the foregoing calculations.

The number of industrial workers and their working hours reached the extreme peak during 1943, while last year a noticeable decline could be seen in both. This is due, Mr. Tate explained, to the fact industrial workers had been drafted for military service.

Another great blow to the United States was the decline in the birthrate, Mr. Tate pointed out, due to the widespread practice of birth control since the end of the last World War. This has resulted in the number of those under the age of 20 years having greatly fallen. And here, Mr. Tate stressed, was the reason for the frenzied anxiety of the United States to end the war soon.

Worried over the adjustment of labor mobilization and the recruiting of men for the military services, the United States Government proposed the total national mobilization plan to Congress last year. Being formed of various different races, however, Mr. Tate said a forced mobilization would naturally cause deep internal frictions. Yet, to wage this war on the strength of her vast military resources, America has no other recourse but to depend on the all-out mobilization of her people. And this would be a serious and difficult undertaking, he said.

The fact that the United States Government tries to hide the actual war losses as much as possible shows how America feels the slow draining away of her human resources, Mr. Tate said. He continued: "'Man', or rather 'men', is the greatest problem of the United States in the execution of this war. In this sense, the invasion of the Philippines is indeed a golden opportunity for us. We must color the sea with the blood of the enemy and pile up enemy bodies as high as a huge mountain. There is needed only another telling blow by us."

Production Peak Passed

President Roosevelt recently announced proudly that America's shipbuilding program for 1945 would be expanded four times that of 1944. But even here, Mr. Tate pointed out, America's efficiency reached its peak in March 1944. Since then her shipbuilding has been gradually declining.

"To review the American production according to her own statistics, Mr. Tate said, "plane production reached its height in March, 1943 when the monthly output was 9,120 planes. In December, the output had fallen to 6,696 planes. America's total plane production in 1944 was 96,400, including 30,000 bombers, 28,900 fighters, 7,700 transports, 23,200 training planes and others.

"Of these, 30,000 bombers and fighters have been sent to the fighting lines, and about 15 per cent of the total production were sent to the anti-Axis countries under the Lend-Lease agreement. This leaves only about 51,000 fighters and bombers to be sent to the battlefields.

"Of these 51,000 planes, some will be detailed to the First and Fourth Air Squadrons in the United States, and to the Second and Third Training Corps. Some will be sent to the Eighth Air Squadron under Lieutenant-General James Harold Doolittle, with its bases in England and Italy, as well as to the four air squadrons in Europe which are conducting large-scale air raids against Germany with from 1,000 to 2,000 planes. Still others will be detailed it the Fifth Air Squadron in New Guinea, the Seventh in Hawaii, the Eleventh in the Aleutians, the Thirteenth in the South Pacific and the Fourteenth in China.

"That is to say, these 51,000 planes will be sent to the eight air squadrons to help supplement their losses. Therefore the planes that will be directly supplied to the Pacific and China fronts will be only about 20,000 a year. Then, these planes will have to be scattered all over the vast area extending from the northern Pacific down to New Britain, New Guinea, the Gilberts, the Netherlands East Indies, India and China. Thus viewed, it can be seen that the number of planes which we will have to combat is far smaller than according to the enemy announcements.

"The total number of ships built in 1943 in the United States was 1,860, totalling 10,090,000 tons. Even if the announcement made on January 3, by the United States Marine Affairs Committee that in 1944, 1,677 ships totalling 16,340,000 tons were built, is true, it is equally true that as compared with last year, the production has fallen by 190 ships, or 2,800,000 tons."

Indonesian Soldier Voices Wish to Join Special Attack Unit

Domei

PALEMBANG, January 15.—News about the facts accomplished by the Japanese Special Attack Corps have stirred the blood of the Indonesians. Muriono, an Indonesian youth aged 23, has submitted a petition, written in blood, to the Corps Commander on the spot pleading that he be taken as a member of the Special Attack Corps. Muriono was one of the first Indonesian youths to volunteer for service with the Japanese Forces as soon as Indonesian volunteers were accepted in the Japanese Army. Muriono's petition submitted to the Corps Commander on New Year's day has now been forwarded to the Supreme Commander in the Sumatra area and necessary steps are being taken to grant the young Indonesian's fervent request.

DEEP INDIGNATION VOICED BY PRIEST OF ISE SHRINES

Furukawa Declares Americans Set on Shattering Religious Faith of Japanese

Expressing his indignation against the American fliers who dropped several bombs in the precincts of the Outer Grand Shrine of Ise destroying two lodging mansions and five sacred music halls on Sunday, Sakyo Furukawa, Assistant Chief Priest of the Ise Grand Shrines made the following statement.

"I cannot fully express my profound regret over the destruction of a part of the Outer Grand Shrine due to the enemy's outrageous and sacrilegious bombings. Luckily the inner sanctuary remained intact. In view of the fact that the enemy aims to shatter the religious faith of the Japanese, we must always be on the alert. In order to protect the Divine Land, the 100,000,000 Japanese must forge ahead in the spirit of dedicating their all to the State."

Tokutomi Denounces Yanks

By carrying out the sacrilegious bombing on the hallowed precincts of the Toyouke Grand Shrine of Ise, the Yankees have proved themselves to be of a lower stock than humankind. The Japanese people should now rise in righteous wrath and be ever more ready to fight the war to a successful conclusion in defiance of all difficulties that stand in their way.

So declared Soho Tokutomi, noted journalist-historian, on Monday when interviewed by an Asahi reporter at his villa at Izu.

Speaking in vigorous words, Mr. Tokutomi expressed his intense indignation over the desecration by American airmen of that sacred Shrine on which rest the devoted respects of the Imperial Family and which is the center of the entire nation's reverence. He expressed deep surprise over the fact that the Yankees, whether intentionally or unintentionally, should have committed this appalling crime, which Mr. Tokutomi described as an indignity of the first order unprecedented in the history of Japan.

"Human morality," declared Mr. Tokutomi, "does not apply to the Yankees for they have committed acts which human beings could and should never do. Hereafter, the Americans should be so dealt with as their bestial nature deserves."

Mr. Tokutomi took the occasion to ask for critical reflection on the part of the Japanese people whether they had been faultless in their determination. This self-criticism, he said, must be made by each and every subject, whatever may be his occupation.

Mr. Tokutomi wondered if the people, military, official, and civilian alike, have been quite fully determined never to waver until America and Britain have been thoroughly crushed. He said, "Can all of us profess unequivocally that we don't feel any sting to our conscience after this gross insult, this infamous act of sacrilege, this horrible humiliation?" Mr. Tokutomi reflected that the people must first beg Heaven's remission for having permitted the enemy to invade Saipan Island.

The only way to undo the national humiliation is, in the opinion of the great scholar-journalist, to recapture Saipan and Omiyajima islands, to maintain the Philippines and to drive the Anglo-Americans away from the region of Greater East Asia. The Government should not be hesitant in wreaking vengeance on the infamous foes while the people should collaborate with the Administration with stern determination, he declared.

Mr. Tokutomi went on to say that unfailing confidence in ultimate victory and burning will to fight on the part of the people were the essential prerequisities for final victory and urged them to carry out their duties with dispatch by overcoming all obstacles that may stand in their way.

To Up Potato Output

The production goal this year for sweet potatoes has been set at 2,700,000,000 kan by the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce, but this figure has been further raised to 3,000,000,000 kan by the Manhood Corps of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association. The Manhood Corps will mobilize 1,400,000 members to assist in the sweet potato production increase campaign in view of the fact that assurance of food self-sufficiency is one of the vital factors in winning the war.

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PRESS COMMENTS

Wednesday, January 17

SOVIET ARMY BEGINS WINTER OFFENSIVE

YOMIURI - HOCHI — The Soviet Army's offensive which opened on January 12 west of Baranov in southern Poland, spread to East Prussia on January 13 and to the area west of Lublin on January 14. The entire front from the Baltic Sea coast down to the Balkans has thus been turned into a battlefield of an all-out offensive.

The offensive of the Soviet Army on the Eastern Front against Germany had shown no special developments since last autumn when it stopped before Warsaw and Eastern Prussia. The fact that the battle of Budapest was kept up in a lively manner only in the Balkan area caused great disappointment to both America and Britain who were impatient to invade German territory from the West. When the Anglo-American camp was thrown into confusion at the end of last year by the sudden German offensive under Field Marshal Gert von Rundstedt, the complaints about the inactivity of the Red Army became still greater, some even advocating a joint command of the American, British and Soviet forces.

Speculation on this new Soviet offensive is already rising as to whether it is a political move in response to the demands of America and Britain, or whether it is an independent strategy on the part of the Soviet Army as the beginning of a final great offensive. As far as we can see, however, though the three countries may have formed a military collaboration, it is hard to conceive that the Soviet Army would start a new offensive merely for the sake of retrieving a military setback caused by the strategic failure of the Anglo-American forces. If the Soviet Army starts a new offensive at a time most favorable for their common war, this does not necessarily mean that it has acted simply to assist the Anglo-Americans.

Whether or not this offensive will decide the European War, it is still to early to predict. But this much can be said: that the time has now come when we may anticipate a big offensive to be undertaken from the East. The following point to this conclusion:

In the first place, while the Soviet Union, in spite of her hopes for an early termination of the war, had never indulged in optimistic predictions, Premier Stalin on the occasion of the Revolution Memorial Day last November, for the first time revealed his expectation of an early end to the European War. Secondly, the Soviet Army which had kept up its offensive almost without seasonal interruptions since the summer of 1943, virtually halted its activities last autumn and had been quiet since. This is now considered to have been for the purpose of a large-scale change of equipment and strengthening of the commissary lines to fit in with the new conditions on the battlefields today. Thirdly, America and Britain also are speeding up final mobilization for the war in Europe after having been dealt a bitter blow by the recent German offensive. Fourthly, it is now clear that the Polish question cannot be solved through political negotiations.

As can be imagined the Soviet offensive was anticipated by Germany and therefore she is surely well prepared to cope with it. But the situation will not be an easy one for the German forces as pressure will likely be brought on her from all sides. However, we place our trust in the great self-confidence of the German command.

21 NAVY HEROES PROMOTED

Special Honors Accorded Airmen, Navy Ministry Announces

The ranks of the following naval air heroes were raised according to the announcements of the Navy Ministry on January 17:

Second Sub-Lieutenants Chisato Kunihara and Masahisa Uemura promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

Flight Warrant Officer Haruo Onishi promoted to the rank of Sub-Lieutenant.

Superior Flight Petty Officers Kaoru Sato, Kohei Arai and Hiroshi Asao, First Class Flight Petty Officers Kazuo Otsubo, Keiichi Uyeno, Ken Miyaharada, Mitsuo Takizawa, Kiyohisa Nakase, Tetsu Nonami and Hisashi Fujimoto and Second Class Flight Petty Officers Haruo Igarashi and Norio Sunai were promoted to the rank of Second Sub-Lieutenant.

First Class Flight Petty Officers Hiroichi Igawa and Yoshio Ogawa, Flying Service Chief Seamen Masatoshi Yoshimori and Gegi Araki promoted to the rank of Flight Warrant Officer.

Second Class Flight Petty Officer Sukeichi Himura promoted to the rank of Superior Flight Petty Officer.

Flight Service Chief Seaman Misao Sugagawa promoted to the rank of First Class Flight Petty Officer.

S. C. Bose in Bangkok

Domei

BANGKOK, January 17.—Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, and his suite arrived here on January 15 in order to express his thanks to the Thai Government for its assistance toward Indian independence.

Normal School Razed

Fire destroyed the Gumma Prefectural Normal School excepting part of the dormitory, early on Tuesday morning. The fire, which started from the night-duty room, was brought under control at 4 a.m.

PLYWOOD SHIP IN TOKYO

Tonan Maru Proves Its Durability During Maiden Voyage

The first plywood ship, the Tonan Maru No. 1, which was constructed by students in this country has just successfully completed its maiden voyage.

On Wednesday, prominent Government officials and other interested authorities visited the ship lying at anchor in Shibaura Port, Tokyo. Present were Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso, Finance Minister Sotaro Ishiwata, Agriculture and Commerce Minister Toshio Shimada, Education Minister Harushige Ninomiya, Minister without Portfolio Admiral Seizo Kobayashi, Munitions Minister Shigeru Yoshida, Dr. Hidetsugu Yagi, President of the Board of Technology, and others.

Relating his experiences during the maiden voyage of the Tonan Maru No. 1, Fuku Shioya, President of the Hinomaru Marine Transportation Company, stated: "Soon after we left port we ran into a storm. Big waves pounded the ship but it remained intact, thus proving conclusively the durability of plywood ships. The Tonan Maru No. 1 was constructed by students. With regular shipbuilders on the job, we will be able to construct larger and stronger vessels."

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SUNTORY WHISKY

Japanese Decoration Is Presented to Chen At Rites in Nanking

Domei

NANKING, January 16. — A ceremony for presenting the First Class Order of the Rising Sun with the Paulownia Flowers with the Grand Cordon to Chen Kung-po, Acting President of the National Government of China took place at 10 a.m. today at the ceremonial hall of the National Government. The decoration was presented to Mr. Chen by Japanese Ambassador Masayuki Tani in the presence of high Government officials representing the Japanese and Chinese Governments. Presentation of the decoration was announced by the Imperial Japanese Court on the occasion of the second anniversary of the National Government's declaration of war on America and Britain.

WILL BOOST POSTAGE RATE

Postage rates will increase as from April 1, it was announced by the Transportation and Communications Ministry on Wednesday. According to the new regulations, first-class mail will require 10-sen stamps for the first 20 grams, while the price of postcards will rise to five sen from the present three sen. Special mail matter such as newspapers and others will require only three sen. Postage for ordinary parcels is set at 50 sen for the first two kilograms and that for registered parcels one yen. Postage for registered letters and others for special delivery will be 30 sen per basic weight.

Swedish Report Doubted

Domei

BERLIN, January 15.—The Wilhelmstrasse spokesman, today, said it was superfluous to comment on the Swedish press report that the Soviets were intending to withdraw from northern Norway because Reuter had reported that according to information from Norwegian circles in London there was nothing to indicate the correctness of the Swedish report.

Obituary

Shigeru Iizuka, a member of the House of Representatives and President of the South Seas Shipping Company, passed away on January 12 in Taiwan. The remains of the late Mr. Iizuka made a silent return to his home at Gotanda, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, on Wednesday.

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SHOICHI KAWAMURA

TOKYO, THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1945

An Impossible Change

A political ferment of considerable potency is apparently now brewing within the Chungking regime. On December 30, Chiang Kai-shek announced that a People's Assembly would be convened within the year 1945 and that the administrative authority would be transferred from the Kuomintang to the people. In his New Year's message to his people, Chiang also stated that he was prepared to adopt a constitutional form of government as soon as conditions permitted without waiting for the end of the war. The Standing Committee of the Chungking Kuomintang on January 8 thereupon took steps to convene on May 5, for the purpose of discussing Chiang's promise to transfer the governing power to the people, the National Congress of the Kuomintang Party which had not been convened in regular session since its last meeting in Hankow in 1938.

The unprecedented nature of the proposed changes can be fully realized only in relation to the present fundamental character of the Chungking regime. Ostensibly a republic, it is a dictatorship pure and simple. Only one party, the Kuomintang, is legally recognized; it controls all governmental agencies and directs their actions; and it in turn is dominated by Chiang Kai-shek who, by reason of his military power, is able to repress all dissentient factions. In theory this Kuomintang Party, composed of self-appointed politicians who claim to be the enlightened elite of the country, exercises arbitrary authority supposedly as trustees of the people during the period of necessary political tutelage between the period of military dictatorship, out of which the country is supposed to have already emerged, and the period of popular rule for which the people are obviously not yet ready. In fact, however, the rule of the Kuomintang is still pretty much of a military dictatorship, as the controlling power of Chiang Kai-shek, based on his military position, proves. Now Chiang proposes to jump at one stride from this feudalistic personal control to full-fledged democracy.

So revolutionary would be such a sudden change that it must be regarded as well nigh impossible. Certainly from the point of view of practical politics, the many abortive attempts which have already been made without success show how unready the Chungking regime is for democracy. A permanent constitution, drafted in 1934 and revised in 1935, was to have been adopted in 1936 but was indefinitely postponed. Finally late in 1943 the Eleventh Plenary Session of the Central Executive Committee of the Chungking regime promised to convene a People's Assembly to adopt a constitution within one year after the end of the present war. The Twelfth Plenary Session of the Central Executive Committee meeting in May 1944 further revised the promise so as to hasten the adoption of the constitution. Now Chiang Kai-shek has moved to take definite steps by which within the present year the constitution would be adopted, a People's Assembly convoked, and the power transferred from the Kuomintang to the people.

Such a sudden and unnatural speeding up of the ostensible change from dictatorship to democracy must have been motivated by pressing circumstances of an unusual character. One of these circumstances was undoubtedly the widespread military disaster which the Chungking armies have recently suffered as the result of the great Japanese offensive. A military dictatorship can hardly justify itself when it is militarily impotent, and Chiang's sudden willingness apparently to relinquish his dictatorial authority may have been caused by his desire to pass on to others the responsibility for the consequences of his military defeats. Another of the circumstances was undoubtedly the necessity of disarming the carping criticism of the rival faction at Yenan which has been attacking Chungking for its undemocratic character. The fact that Yenan itself in spite its radical ideology—or perhaps because of it—maintains concentration camps, enforces iron party discipline, and tolerates no individual freedom of thought or action nevertheless does not make its criticisms any less embarrassing to Chungking.

But probably the most pressing of the circumstances was the attitude of the United States. For more dangerous than avowed opponents like Japan and Yenan is a covert enemy who pretends to be a friend. The United States has been severely attacking the supposedly "fascistic" character of the Chungking regime, purportedly by way of constructive criticism to help Chungking strengthen itself, but really for the ulterior purpose of forcing American control and supervision over Chungking the better to utilize it as a compliant tool in America's war against Japan and in America's scheme to expand her economic domination over all China. Chiang's attempt to parry the American thrust by undertaking a minor cabinet reshuffle proved inadequate, and now he is being forced to resort to a more sweeping gesture in an attempt to ward off the American pressure.

Chiang's proposed changes, however, can hardly be expected to make any fundamental difference in the character of the Chungking regime. A paper constitution and the play acting of a make-believe People's Assembly cannot of themselves assure democracy. Especially is it so when they are called into existence as an insincere gesture forced by outside pressure.

The spirit of a government is not a matter of technical forms and mechanisms. It rests upon such complex factors as the traditions of the nation, the educational level and political maturity of its citizens, the ideals and discipline of its ruling class, the nature of its economic and social institutions. These cannot be changed overnight by fiat. The past record of the Chungking regime shows that it has never been able to rise above being a cabal of Kuomintang politicians dominated by the military dictatorship of Chiang Kai-shek. It means that Chungking does not possess the basic requirements for being anything else. Particularly does Chungking lack anything like a responsible or articulate public. Chiang's sudden conferring of a constitution and a popular assembly cannot instantaneously create these basic requisites out of thin air.

Obviously, then, the conclusion must be that whatever the current flurry of excitement in Chungking's political circle, whatever the changes in the outward form of the regime's administrative machinery, there can result no essential difference in the fundamentally arbitrary character of Chiang Kai-shek's dictatorship.

A Year Ago Today

January 18, 1944

Imperial Naval Garrison Forces on Taroa Island shot down one enemy plane when a formation of 10 enemy B-25's, in an attempt attacked our positions on the western part of the island, carried out bombings from a low altitude. Due to the severe resistance by anti-aircraft gunfire, the rest of the raiders fled. The damage on our side was slight.

* * *

Six large-sized four-engined bombers came attacking Ambon on Amboina Island. Our Fighter-Plane Units promptly challenged them and repelled all the raiders who fled in confusion. Three of the enemy planes were seen to have caught on fire and trailed columns of black smoke. No damage was sustained by our side.

* * *

Of about 200 enemy planes that came attacking Rabaul, more than half of them or 102 aircraft including 17 probables, were shot down by Imperial Naval Air Units and Ground Units, without any loss on our side, except for two vessels sunk, it was revealed.

* * *

The Richthofen Fighter Squadron, which has been operating in the west since the beginning of the war, has now scored its 2,000th victory.

NEW FORM OF U.S. IMPERIALISM

Extension of Credits Is Finding Increasing Support

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

II

So far as Chungking is concerned, the application of the Lend-Lease Act is simply nominal. Roosevelt's sixteenth report shows that the total Lend-Lease supplies to Chungking up to the end of June last year were no more than $150,000,000. From what Chungking itself made public, 50 anti-tank guns, 60 mountain guns, and 30,000,000 pounds of rifle and machine-gun bullets was all it got from America.

It is said that over 20,000 tons of Lend-Lease supplies have been going to Chungking by air lately every month, but it must be remembered that a large proportion of these supplies are for the American air force in China and not for the Chungking army.

It is undeniable that supply routes to Chungking are very limited compared with those available in the case of Britain, the Soviet Union and other countries, but, above all, America does not evidently feel the necessity of winning the gratitude of Chungking by a generous supply of arms, for she is conscious of her ability to control Chungking as she pleases by force. It is primarily due to this circumstance that America's supplies to Chungking are so disproportionately small. The same thing may be said of America's attitude toward the Central and South American countries.

The term of validity of the Lend-Lease Act was again extended in June last year to the end of June this year, but a good deal of interest is already aroused in anti-Axis quarters as to whether the Act will be renewed or not at the expiration of this extended term. In view of the object for which it was enacted, there seems to be no occasion for its continued enforcement, but the anti-Axis countries have yet evolved no plan or method by which they can hope to obtain supplies from America after the abolition of this Act. Nor can they possibly supply their own demand.

On the other hand, America can ill afford to do away with this Act, for in the event of its abolition there would be a disastrous fall in her exports. Nor is there any doubt that the domestic market is too small for her extremely expanded production. Even if she may decide to rescind the Lend-Lease Act, therefore, she will have to devise some alternative plan so as to maintain the export of her surplus production.

Extension of Credit Favored

It is for this reason that the view in favor of the extension of credits is finding increasing support in America at present. The following opinions of Dr. Laughlin Currie, vice-chief of the American Foreign Economic Board, and Harry L. Hopkins, an adviser to the President, may be cited as typical of the theory advanced in this connection.

Laughlin Currie says: "It is expected that the exports of 1944 will be nigh on $15,000,000,000, about four times the prewar exports, of which $11,300,000,000 will represent Lend-Lease exports. The Lend-Lease exports which form so large a proportion of the year's export trade must necessarily cease after the war. In order to keep employment in good order, however, the resulting gap must by all means be filled. And it is absolutely necessary for us to maintain our trade at the present level. On the other hand, foreign countries will surely require large quantities of materials for their reconversion and reconstruction works, but as they cannot afford to pay immediately for the imports of these materials in cash or in kind, there will inevitably arise the necessity of granting credits to them."

Henry L. Hopkins opines:—"After the war, America must safeguard her export trade through the liberal extension of credits to other countries. I suggest that the American Government annually should give loans amounting to at least $1,000,000,000 to foreign countries after the war. With these loans the debtor countries must be made to import foodstuffs and industrial goods from America. In this way, it may be hoped that the loans given to these countries will revert to American farmers and industrialists to the last dollar. Care must be taken in this case to see that the loans are not used arbitrarily by the debtor countries as was the case after the first World War."

The future of the Lend-Lease Act seems to be clearly foreshadowed in the opinions cited above. That is to say, the operation of the Act is going to be extended for a further period, though in a more fundamental form.

(End)

Such a Memory

"Now Billy, what did I tell you last time about birds?"

"Surely you haven't forgotten already, teacher!"

CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Plan Envisages the Introduction of an Oligarchical System to Reimpose the Ante-Bellum Status Quo

By **HIKOMATSU KAMIKAWA**
(From Contemporary Japan)

Revealing the real war aims of America, Britain and the Soviet Union, the "Charter of the United Nations" has attracted widespread attention. It was made public on October 9 last following the Four-Power Conference among America, Britain, the Soviet Union and Chungking held at Dumbarton Oaks in the suburbs of Washington, D.C., lasting from early in August to early in October. A survey of the diplomatic annals of modern Europe discloses that every big war on that continent has invariably been followed by the adoption of a new international system sponsored by the victor nations in efforts to perpetuate their military achievements on the one hand, and to maintain their post-bellum international order on the other. For instance, the Thirty Years' War, the first great war in modern Europe, was followed in its wake by the Westphalia world system, which was established by France and Sweden, the victor nations, as a new charter for the European nations. Historically speaking, this charter was designed by the victor nations to depotentiate the Hapsburgs of Spain and Austria, which had wielded dominant influences in prewar days, and also to perpetuate the leadership over Europe of France and Sweden. Again, it is well known that the Vienna Congress that got underway to liquidate the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars extending over a quarter of a century led to the conclusion of the Holy Alliance and the establishment of the European Directory for the purpose of maintaining international peace and order. Both the Holy Alliance and the European Directory had the one and the same aim of maintaining the post-bellum European order and of securing leadership not only of Europe, but also of the world on the part of the victor nations which had succeeded in eliminating Napoleon's ambition for world control.

Maintenance of Post-Bellum Order

As recorded in history, it was the Holy Alliance that was instrumental in suppressing the liberalistic revolutions during the monarchial restoration in France as a conservative organ, while it was the European Directory that, as successor to the alliance between Britain, Russia, Austria and Prussia against Napoleon, endeavored to maintain the post-bellum order and to establish the big Powers' international leadership by depriving France of any opportunity to rise again. Needless to elaborate, Britain had organized and operated the European Directory as an attempt to prevent France from rising again. Moreover, she had assiduously pursued a balance of power policy toward Europe in order to keep Russia and Austria divided, thereby nullifying any chance of their growing increasingly powerful either separately or jointly. Inasmuch as Britain is a firm believer in the balance of power policy, it would not be a mere figment of imagination to say that her ready adherence to the Charter of the United Nations is not free from ulterior motive. It is still fresh in the memory of the international public that, at the termination of the last World War, Britain, France and America, the leaders of the victor nations, organized the League of Nations under the plausible pretext of realizing international justice and maintaining world peace: but, in reality, they set up the League machinery to impose their hegemony over the world, and yet Britain continued to pursue her traditional balance of power policy, which caused America to back out of it at the last moment. So far as Japan is concerned, there is hardly any substance in the "Dumbarton Oaks" plan, for it has been conceived and designed on the hypothetical basis of the ultimate victory of the signatory Powers. Since it aims at initiating the world mastery of them in the postwar period, its pattern is as onesided as those of the Westphalia system, the Holy Alliance, the European Directory and the League of Nations. A mere glance at the charter is enough to convince anyone that it envisages the introduction of an oligarchical system to reimpose the ante-bellum international status quo, and thus deprive Japan and Germany of their legitimate right to rehabilitate a refromed state of things in their respective spheres of the world.

Resembles League Covenant

The Charter of the United Nations resembles the Covenant of the League of Nations in form, but it differs from the latter in substance: organization and function. The fundamental difference between the two lies in the fact that whereas the League of Nations was an international organ for discussion, that is to say, a medium for reflecting world opinion, the charter grants the United Nations representing a combination of Powers the right to form an executive organ and to administer sanctions against the aggressor nation or nations. As the present combination called the United Nations is essentially a military alliance or contract between America, Britain and the Soviet Union, it is more than apparent that the charter is meant to clear the way for safeguarding their world control and monopoly after the war. But to give an attractive polish to that objective, they have dressed their charter in the cast-off robe of the League of Nations. The executive organ as outlined in the charter is the proposed Security Council, and its task is to carry into effect the declared objective of the three-Power military alliance or contract. Superficially, the Security Council resembles the framework of the Council of the League of Nations; intrinsically, however, the former is quite different from the latter, there being nothing common between them. Those Powers which will have permanent membership in the Security Council are expected to be America, Britain, the Soviet Union, France and Chungking. As France is no longer a Power and as Chungking has become subservient to the Anglo-American nations, it is crystal clear that America, Britain and the Soviet Union will dominate the council as its permanent members. It is true that the Security Council will have six non-permanent members in addition to the five permanent ones. It seems that this provision has been made to give the impression that lesser nations would be permitted to participate in the management of the new organ. It has been made known that the non-permanent members will be elected from among the United Nations except America, Britain, the Soviet Union and Chungking for a term of office lasting two years. No sharp vision is required to observe that the non-permanent members will be advantageously utilized by America, Britain and the Soviet Union, who will actually run the Security Council.

The Security Council

The Security Council has been proposed as an organ to deliberate on all important international political issues, adjudicate on international complications of importance and chastize the breaker of international peace, or aggressor. It is scarcely necessary to mention that its primary task will be to enforce sanctions against the so-called aggressor nation. It is provided that a military staff committee be organized under the Security Council as an organ for preparing and planning the use of armed force against the so-called aggressor nation. This military staff committee will be nothing but the combined military headquarters of America, Britain and the Soviet Union, and it will look after all plans and affairs relating to their armaments and use of armed force. It will, therefore, consist of the Chiefs of Staff of the permanent members of the Security Council or their representatives. In other words, it will be the supreme military council of America, Britain and the Soviet Union headed by their respective Chiefs of Staff. In the event of an emergency arising calling for the application of sanctions against an aggressor nation, not only will the Security Council have at its disposal the armaments of America, Britain and the Soviet Union, but also will exercise power to control or use the armaments of other United Nations. The contracting parties justify the delegation of such broad power on the ground that the charter of the United Nations provides that the Security Council assume the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and act on behalf of the United Nations to carry out their duties. Chapter VI, Section B I of the charter reads: "In order to secure prompt and effective action by the organization, the members of the organization should, by the charter, confer on the Security Council the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and should agree that, in carrying out these duties under this responsibility, it should act on their behalf." It is further stipulated that all the United Nations must abide by the decisions of the Security Council, which they must carry out. Chapter VI, Section B 4 states: "All members of the organization should obligate themselves to accept the decisions of the Security Council and to carry them out in accordance with the provisions of the charter." The implication of these two sections is that America, Britain and the Soviet Union, forming the nucleus of the Security Council, will arrogate powers themselves in the name of the United Nations to adjudicate and act on all important international happenings.

Another Difference

Another fundamental difference between the new machinery and the League of Nations lies in the fact that all members of the United Nations forfeit their individual independence of action with the exception of America, Britain and the Soviet Union. The Charter of the United Nations is no doubt based on the principle of sovereign equality but it has been so framed that only America, Britain and the Soviet Union are entitled to enjoy the right of independent action, while other partners of the United Nations, must abide by the decisions of the Security Council, which is also authorized to declare war and make peace on the latter's behalf. In addition, as pointed out, the Security Council is empowered to make decisions on all questions relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, which all the United Nations must carry out. Is it fair that an independent, sovereign nation should have no right to make decision on all important international questions affecting it, including the right to declare war and make peace? This stipulation is certainly a deliberate encroachment upon the sovereign rights of the lesser United Nations. It gives America, Britain and the Soviet Union unrestricted power in the name of the United Nations to dominate the Security Council, the principal international machinery envisaged in the charter. In consequence of this fact, the charter must be viewed as an Anglo-American-Soviet project of spoilation and domination in the postwar period.

Maintenance of Status Quo

Last but not least important difference between the new machinery and the League of Nations is that the former is an organization which peremptorily demands the maintenance of the status quo by refusing to take note of the concrete changes in the international situation. The twenty years' history of the League of Nations shows that it has been nothing more or less than an organ for maintaining the status quo on the basis of the Versailles peace fabric. And yet the Covenant of the League of Nations envisages the advisability of a peaceful change of international conditions in Article XIX, which reads: "The Assembly may from time to time advise the reconsideration by members of the League of treaties which have become inapplicable and the consideration of international conditions whose continuance might endanger the peace of the world." It is a matter of common knowledge that this provision has never been invoked by the League of Nations since its inception. The Charter of the United Nations even makes no gesture to welcome a peaceful change of international conditions; on the contrary, it takes an open, bold stand for the maintenance of the status quo. By drafting such a charter for the security of the world, its principal authors—America, Britain and the Soviet Union—have inadvertently exposed their self-created domineering complex and also their importunate desire to settle the political and economic issues of the world palatable to their expansionist taste. One thing, however, must be given due attention: that is, the charter makes it plain that its principal authors are determined not to leave any stone unturned in their attempt to carry it into effect.

Like European Directory

The very nature of the organization of the United Nations reminds one more of the European Directory system than of the League of Nations, to which of course it bears a superficial resemblance. The proposed machinery after the war will be nothing but a continuation of that of the present United Nations, with America, Britain and the Soviet Union playing the major role. At the same time, the driving power of the United Nations in the postwar period will be the extension of the present military alliance among America, Britain and the Soviet Union. Just as the European Directory was a continuation of the Four-Power Alliance among England, Russia, Austria and Prussia during the Napoleonic Wars, which was draped in European conciliation, so the present organization is an extension of the military alliance among America, Britain and the Soviet Union, which is adorned with the accoutrements of the United Nations. Again, just as the European Directory was nothing but a despotic, oligarchical system evolved by the four big Powers to dominate the international politics of Europe, so the present scheme is nothing but an expansionist oligarchical system put forward by America, Britain and the Soviet Union to control the international politics, not only of Europe but also of the world as a whole. The only difference, if any, between the European Directory and the new system is that the one had aimed at controlling Europe, but the other is aimed at dominating the world; and while the former was possessed of no legal organization or executive organ, the latter has not only proposed a legal organization, but also a powerful permanent executive organ by enunciating the Charter of the United Nations. Because of it, which represents the war aims of America, Britain and the Soviet Union, the much-publicized Atlantic Charter has been thrown overboard. In the former there are several provisions which are irreconcilable with those of the latter. The Charter of the United Nations does not concede the development of genuine world security, but the imposition of an Anglo-American-Soviet system of world control by relegating other nations to ineffective, subordinate positions.

U.S. INDUSTRIAL RECONVERSION

Military Opposition to Movement Vigorous

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

I

Encouraged by the recent war situations, Roosevelt's propaganda, intended for home consumption that "the United States cannot but come out victorious in the current war" has proved to be a boomerang. It has given rise to undue optimism, making the people think that the war is almost over and diverting their attention to the problem of industrial reconversion, despite the labor bottleneck in her munitions industries. Here has arisen a deeply disconcerting series of contradictions and embarrassments which confronts the United States in the final stage of the war.

The problem of industrial reconversion came to the fore when Donald M. Nelson, the then chairman of the War Production Board, announced on August 15 of last year to grant licenses to some branches of industries for the production of civilian goods. The manufacture of refrigerators and certain other goods was thereby permitted, through only in those areas where there was a surplus of labor and equipment. The following three-point policy was laid down as the essential conditions for the resumption of civilian production:

1. The reconversion of industries will be permitted only when it is definitely established that there is no possibility of civilian production interfering with the production of munitions.

2. Full recognition shall be given to the fact that the scale of economy in the future will very probably be of far greater dimensions than before the war.

3. The production of goods in the reconverted industries shall be pushed forward with as much enthusiasm as was maintained during the production of munitions.

In the background of the movement favoring industrial reconversion are, of course, the vast masses of people—especially the working classes, medium and small enterprisers, and capitalists. Their spokesman was Donald Nelson, former director of the War Production Board.

Army Opposed

Strongly opposed to the reconversion of the industries are the military circles and big capitalists, who argue that the time is inopportune in view of the dire need for increasing subplies of munitions at the present stage of the war. And well may they object to the reconversion, since the question of strategic necessity is above all most important to the military circles, and as the big capitalists have at present huge unfulfilled contracts. These contracts still monopolize their productive capacity. Thus they feel that they would be at a considerable disadvantage in the future if they should allow the medium and small capitalists to return to the production of civilian goods now.

How serious was the problem of munitions production was revealed by Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson on September 10. "The United States' output of munitions is far below the front line requirements. In the production of munitions six months hence, we have to achieve an increase of 45 per cent for cannon, 113 per cent for shells, 65 per cent for lorries, 100 per cent for tires, 80 per cent for cranes and 600 per cent for portable flame throwers."

Moreover, on August 3, the Department of War authorities, pointing out that the labor shortage was interfering with production in various munitions factories, sternly objected to the reconversion scheme championed by Donald Nelson.

To meet the labor shortage, the "New Labor Control Order" and "Labor Mobilization Order" were promulgated on July 1 and August 4 respectively, as vigorous steps to tackle the problem of wartime labor shortage. These steps, introduced with the object of speeding up the production of war materials, were clearly incompatible with the idea that part of the industries should now be turned over from war to peace basis. Small wonder then that the problem of reconversion grew so controversial that even within the War Production Board itself its Chairman Donald Nelson found himself opposed by the Vice-Chairman Charles E. Wilson—an internal strife which was put to an end by ordering Nelson out to Chungking. Wilson's resignation, followed by Nelson's resignation, and finally Julius Krug's assumption of the chairmanship of the Board.

A scheme for removing restrictions on civil production was made public by Krug on September 6. It comprised the following principles:

1. With the completion of the war in Europe, almost all existing restrictions on civil production will be abolished, excepting, however, those required in carrying on the war with Japan.

2. The above will enable the reduction in the volume of munitions production by approximately 40 per cent (according to Nelson, the 40 per cent reduction in munitions production is to mean a 80 per cent increase in civilian production).

3. The above reduction will release about 4,000,000 workers from the war industries.

A partial demobilization scheme was announced by the Department of War on the same day. It was to go into effect on the cessation of hostilities in Europe. It provided that consideration will be given to the length of service, period of stay abroad, their war merits and the number of dependents in determining who will be demobilized. But, the nation has not yet considered such a demobilization plan, having, on the contrary, declared that its existing personnel numbering a little over three million will be further increased to 3,400,000.

(To Be Continued)

TRAGEDY OF ERRORS

Events in Greece May Strongly Influence Soviet Policy

IV

A view is taken in Moscow that as Greece by common consent came under the responsibility of the British Command, Russians have no right to interfere with the British action there. When in the early summer, Russian armies swept across the Rumanian plain and entered Bulgaria, the Soviet Government gave a formal assurance to western allies that General Tolbukhin's forces will not cross the frontier from Bulgaria into Greece. Russians kept their part of the bargain and had taken a detached attitude toward Greek affairs ever since.

An evidence shows that EAM leaders have not taken any clue from Moscow. The present Russian reticence is intended to be a demonstration of Russia's continued aloofness. But events in Greece may strongly influence Russian policy in those countries that come within the Russian theater of operations. Russians are now likely to act on a principle that what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

Moscow has officially kept silent about the British intervention in Greece, and Washington will also show similar discretion if similar trouble occurs in the Russian zone of operations.

Generally speaking, events in Athens are likely to result in further stiffening of Russian attitude toward Poland and in greater Russian reluctance to discuss the Russo-Polish controversy with western allies. Events in Athens and less publicized trouble in the Balkans, thus, placed the great problem before Allied policy. If it be accepted that each Allied Power has an exclusive right to intervene in the political life of its zone operations, that one result can be foreseen with absolute certainty, and respective spheres of influence will tend to become spheres of "ideological" as well as of strategic influence. They may become sharply separated from one another by allegiance to Communism and of opposition to Communism.

The alternative policy is decision on major political issues and should be made jointly by Allied Powers in agreement with smaller nations, whose fate hangs in the balance.

Effects of Crisis

The Times' correspondent in Istanbul reports on December 16 as follows:

Reports from Bulgaria, Rumania, and Yugoslavia, describe the keen interest and concern aroused by the Greek crisis, and conviction that sooner or later, its effects will be felt in those countries. The main preoccupation is the punishment of war criminals and collaborationists, and people are much concerned about the correct application of the term collaborationist. Everybody agrees that quislings and other persons who actively assisted the German Gestapo, must pay penalty, but thousands of persons find themselves under the suspicion of direct accusation if they happened to work in a factory requisitioned by Germans. All civil servants, members of the army, or police service, and municipal employes find themselves exposed to public criticism even if they did nothing but carry out their duties.

In every Balkan country, this problem is causing great concern and the acute crisis was narrowly averted last week in Bulgaria. A decree was issued by the Minister of War and approved by the Cabinet granting amnesty to soldiers who served under the former regime, and if they are now serving in the army against the Germans. Communists and Socialists strongly objected to this decree and accused Agrarians and the Zveno group of acting contrary to spirit on the patriotic front. This decree was then rescinded and a rift which threatened to break up the patriotic front was patched up. Unless some general rules on this subject are laid down by principal Allied Powers to which other United Nations and former satellites in Germany would adhere, this vexed question is likely to cause unrest everywhere.

(End)